

CENTRAL VALLEY ANGLER SURVEY: 2011 Recreational Harvest of Chinook Salmon

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2011 Fall-run Season

- Lower Feather River:

Open July 16th – December 11th:

Excluding Thermalito Afterbay Outlet and the low flow channel

- Lower Sacramento: Carquinez Bridge to Knights Landing

Open July 16th – December 11th

- Upper Sacramento – Knights Landing to Red Bluff

Open July 16th – December 18th

Red Bluff to Deschutes Road Bridge opened August 1st

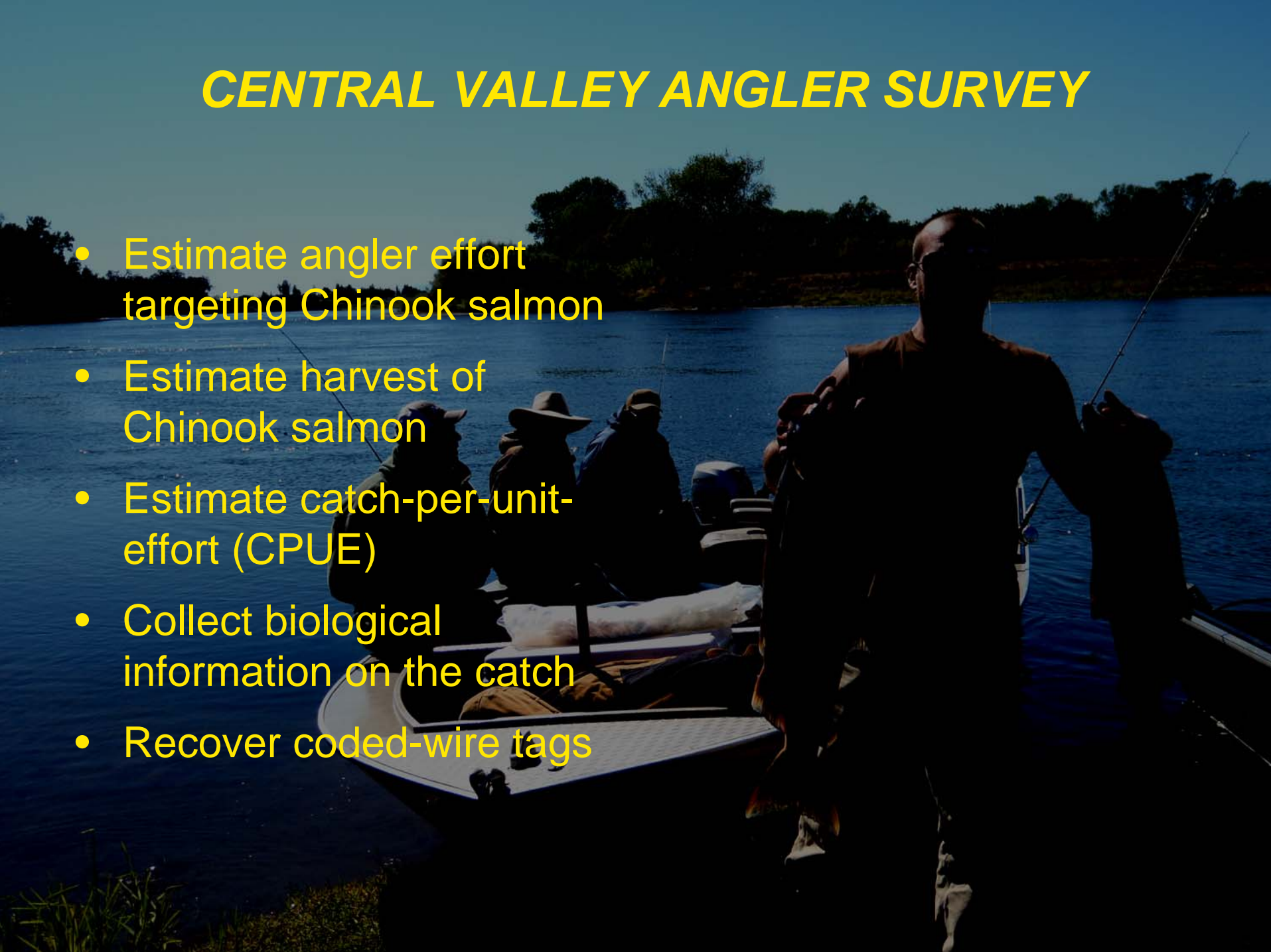
- Lower American River

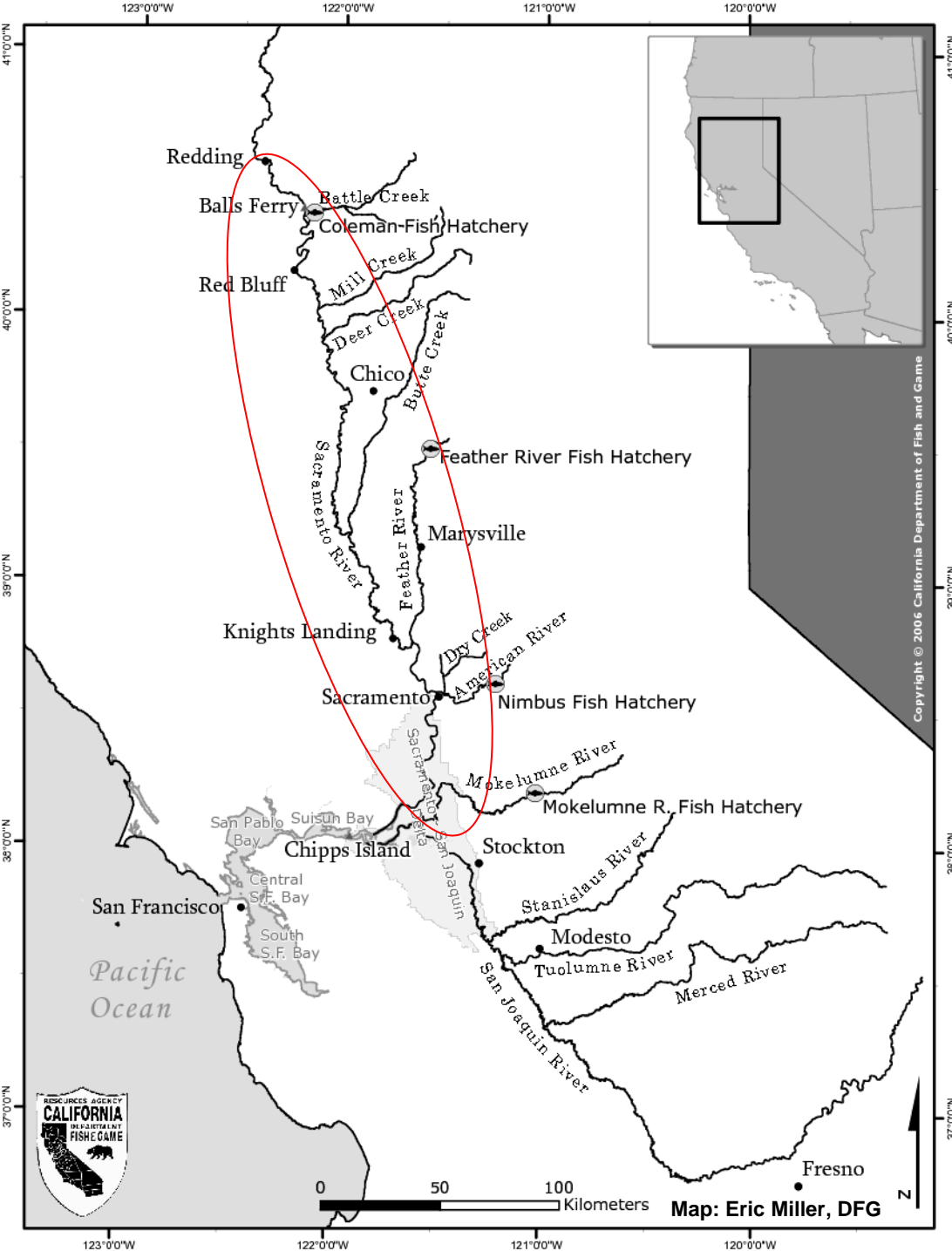
Open July 16th – December 31th

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CENTRAL VALLEY ANGLER SURVEY

- Estimate angler effort targeting Chinook salmon
- Estimate harvest of Chinook salmon
- Estimate catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE)
- Collect biological information on the catch
- Recover coded-wire tags





Sampling Design:

- 15 survey sections:
 - *Sacramento River: Carquinez Bridge to Deschutes Rd Bridge*
 - *Feather River*
 - *American River*
- Eight randomly selected sampling days per month:
 - *four weekdays*
 - *four weekend days*

Estimates of Chinook salmon effort, harvest and stock identification



Data collection via:

- Roving angler counts
- Roving interviews
- Access point interviews
- Coded Wire Tag (CWT)

Recovery

Overview of 2011 Central Valley Fall-Run Sport Fishery for Chinook Salmon¹

- **Effort:** 843,098 angler hours
- **Harvest:** 60,500 salmon
- **Release²:** 10,989 salmon
- **Total catch²:** 71,489
- **Pct retention:** 82%
- **Harvest rate:** 7 salmon per 100 angler hours



¹ Based on fishery statistics for the Sacramento, Feather, & American rivers, July – December 2011.

² Preliminary data subject to change

Expansion Statistics

- Contacted over 4,000 fishing parties
- 3,324 salmon reported kept



- 2,805 salmon measured,
or 4.6% of the total estimated harvest
- 660 adipose fin-clipped salmon
- 652 heads taken for CWT recovery, or 99%

Photo by Harry Morse, DFG

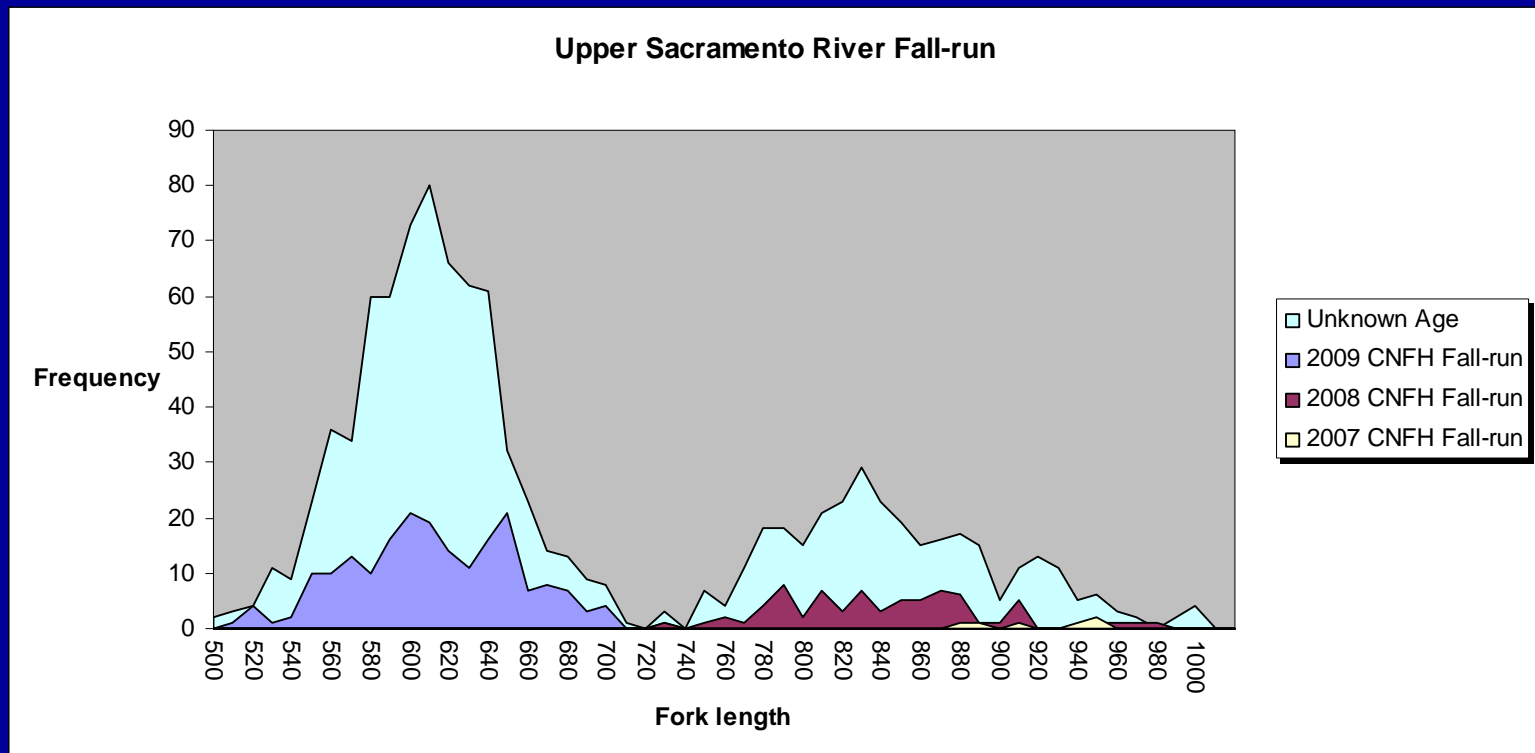
Coded Wire Tag Recoveries

628 CWTs successfully recovered and read

- 85% SRFC
- 9% Mokelumne River fall run
- 1.8% Other non-SRFC
- 1.6% Merced River fall run
- 1.3% Feather River spring run
- 0.6% Sacramento River late-fall run
- 0.0% Winter-run

Fork Length Frequency Analysis

- Conducted for each management zone to determine the delineation between grilse and adult fall-run Chinook salmon



Grilse composition varied between management zones

- 56% Feather River
- 69% Lower Sacramento River
- 71% Upper Sacramento River
- 72% American River



Final SRFC Harvest Estimate

Overall, 70% of the harvest were grilse

- 17,362 adult SRFC
- 40,471 grilse SRFC


Late-fall-run Chinook Salmon Fishery

- Restricted to the Upper Sacramento River:
Knights Landing to Deschutes Road Bridge
- Open November 1st —
December 18th
- Daily bag and possession limit of 2 Chinook salmon



Photo by Harry Morse, DFG

2011 Sacramento River Late-Fall-Run Chinook Salmon Fishery



• Effort:	35,789 angler hours
• Trips:	9,997 angler trips
• Harvest:	1,730 salmon
• Release¹:	85 salmon
• Pct retention:	95.3%
• Harvest rate:	5 salmon per 100 angler hours

¹Preliminary, subject to change

Photo by Harry Morse, DFG

Expansion Statistics

- Contacted over 600 fishing parties
- 220 salmon reported kept
- 186 salmon measured
 - 11% of the total estimated harvest
- 123 adipose fin-clipped salmon
- 120 heads (98%) taken for CWT recovery

Coded Wire Tag recoveries

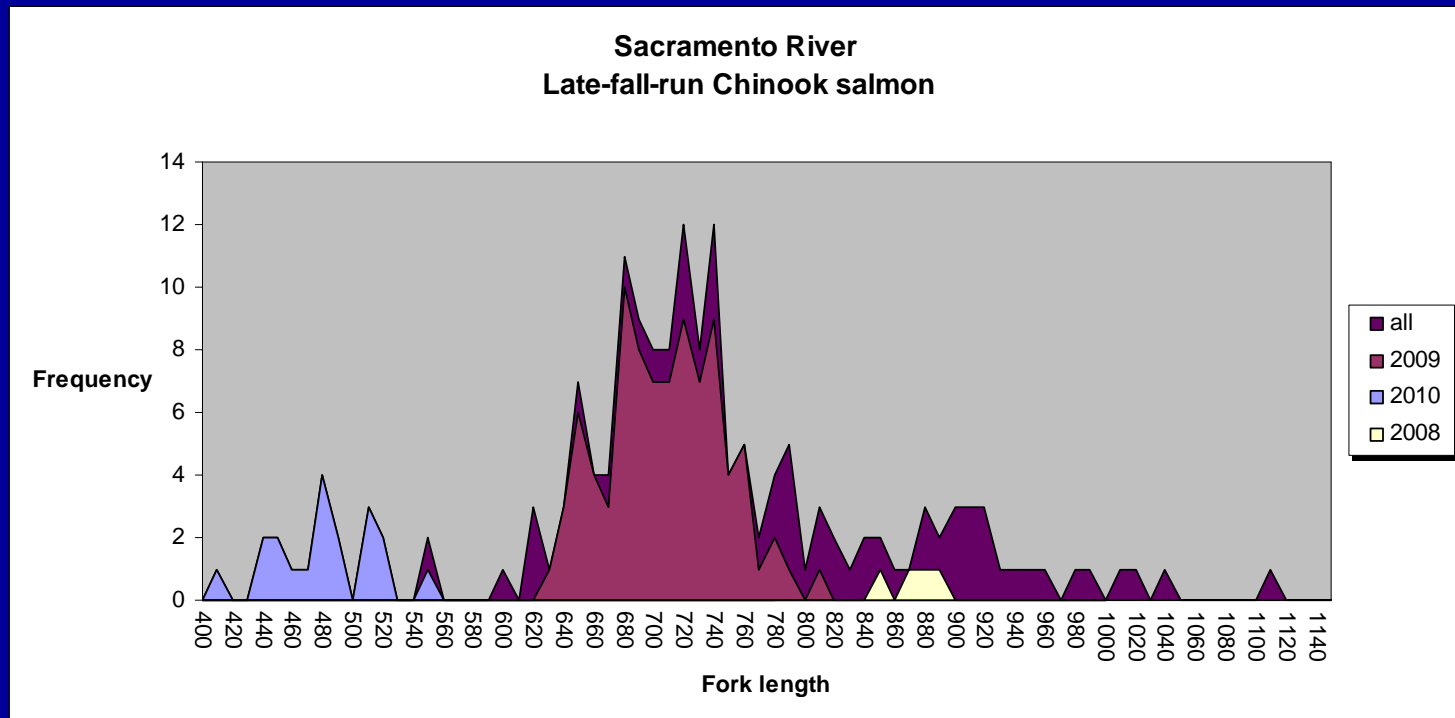
117 CWT successfully recovered and read

- 97% Sacramento River late-fall run
- 1% Mokelumne River fall run
- 1% Sacramento River fall run
- 1% Feather River spring run
- 0.0% Sacramento River winter run

Fork Length Frequency Analysis

Determine the delineation between grilse and adult late-fall-run Chinook salmon

- Apparent break at 580 mm FL
- 12%, or 204, SRLFC grilse



Final SRLFC Harvest Estimate

- 1,499 adult SRLFC
- 204 grilse SRLFC

Contact Information

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